glacier valley are some of the systems that are being monitored and studied under the research projects.

Report of climate change forecasting

4123. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the most shocking U.N. Panel Report on the climate change forecasting that India would be among countries, wrost affected by global warming;

(b) the ill-effects and dangers forecasted against India; and

(c) whether the U.N. Panel Report on this aspect is reliable and scientific?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The U.N. Report provides a global assessment of observed climate change, climate processes and estimates of projected future climate change at the continental level. The salient findings of the Report include increase in the global atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide as a result of human activities since 1750 and increase in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice and rising global average sea level resulting in negative economic impact. No country specific findings have been reported.

(c) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has been established by World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to assess scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant for the understanding of climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation. The Report on this aspect is an assessment based on the published scientific literature worldwide. It is synthesized by the experts in the relevant field under the aegis of the IPCC.

U.N. Panel Report on Global Warming

4124. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.N. Panel Report on Global Warming has been considered seriously or ignored by other countries;

(b) the reaction of India on this report; and

(c) whether there will be any preventive or curative process and measures to get over this nature's onslaught?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The U.N. Report provides a global assessment of observed climatechange, climate processes and estimates of projected future climate change including increase in average global temperatures. All countries including India are concerned about these findings. Necessary steps are being undertaken to address these issues most effectively through coordinated programs at National and International level.

(c) India is engaged in the International Climate Change Regime, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol, and various partnerships with other countries under the UNFCCC. Government have taken a number of initiatives like improving energy efficiency, conservation, afforestation and conservation of forests, encouraging mass rapid transport system, taking up environmental quality management all with a view to reduce climate change and mitigate its had effect.

Wastage of fruits and vegetables in the country

4125. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that about 60 thousand tones of fruits and vegetables are going to waste due to lack of processing facilities in the country;

(b) if-so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by Government alongwith the State Governments to process fruits and vegetables that go waste and use them for the poor people;

(c) whether Government propose to create opportunity for unemployed youths in the processing of fruits and vegetables that go waste; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) As per the report of M/s. Rabo India Finance Pvt. Ltd. wastage of fruit and